राज्य स्तर और क्षेत्रीय स्तरों पर संगोष्ठियां और बैठकें आयोजित की जाती हैं।

Amount spent for Air travel

6233. SHRI A. NALLASIVAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 663 given in the Rajya Sabha on 28th February, 1994 and state:

(a) what is the total amount spent for air travel during the year 1992 and 1993 by BCCL; and

(b) the facts in detail with month-wise breakups?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) In Bharat Coking Coal Ltd., there is no system of separate booking of expenditure for air travel,. rail travel, taxi hire chares etc. Besides there are about 30 pay centres scattered at different places of the country. For ascertaining details of expenditure on air travel, all vouchers are to be scrutinized. Thus it is felt that the resources, time and effort required in collecting and compiling this information may not be commensurate with the purpose sought to be achieved.

Unpaid dues of CIL workers

6234: SHRI A. NALLASIVAN: Will the Miinster of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) how many retired workers of Coal India Limited were not paid the gratuity till date;

(b) by when they will get their dues:

(c) why LTC of workers are unpaid for the last two years; and

(d) what is the total amount still remain unpaid and by when it will be paid to the workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) 5849 retired workers of Coal India Limited are yet to be paid gratuity due to pendency of disciplinary action/vigilance enquiry against them, disputes regarding amount of gratuity, non-submission of applications by the claimants or their nominees and non-payment of companies dues. An additional reason in the case of Eastern Coalfields Ltd. is poor liquidity position.

(b) The payment will be released to the workers after meeting the requirements of gratuity payment rules. In Eastern Coalfields Ltd., payment will also depend on liquidity position.

(c) Payment of LTC to workers is pending due to shortage of funds in the case of Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. Central Coalfields Ltd. and Western Coalfields Ltd.

(d) In Bharat Coking Coal Limited and Central Coalfields Ltd., an amount of Rs. 3286.83 lakh and Rs. 280 lakh. respectively is yet to be paid to the workers on account of LTC. In Western Coalfields Ltd., release of funds for the year 1993-94 is under process. The coal companies are taking steps to clear the dues as early as posible.

Test of 'G' OCP coal in BSP

6235. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coal from 'G' OCP has been successfully tested in the blast furnace of Bokaro Steel Plant after beneficiation and carbonisation in Kumbraj type of coke oven;

(b) if so, what are the findings of the tests; and

(c) what are the future plan of Government to use the 'G' OCP coals in the steel plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) Yes, Sir. Beneficiated coal from Golukdih Opencast Pro-